

U.S. Department of Justice

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NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA
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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that Waltraud "Trudy" Alloway, age 55, of Sterling, Virginia, pleaded guilty before Judge James C. Cacheris to embezzling United States government funds in connection with her employment as the Chief Financial Officer of Datex, Inc., a Falls Church, Virginia, corporation that held contracts with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Ms. Alloway faces a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. Sentencing is set for September 6, 2002.

From June 1998 through April 2000, Ms. Alloway embezzled \$288,000 in USAID funds from Datex bank accounts used for the disbursement of grants under a 1996 USAID contract. On 15 occasions, Alloway transferred portions of these funds to a bank account at Southern Financial Bank in the name of her company, Aftermath Associates. Alloway also altered or destroyed Datex records to conceal the embezzlements. Some of the embezzled

funds were used in the purchase of Ms. Alloway's Sterling, Virginia, home which, under the terms of the plea agreement, will be forfeited by the government.

U.S. Attorney McNulty said: "The defendant's crime was especially egregious because she stole funds that were appropriated for the benefit of developing countries."

Under the 1996 contract Datex was obligated to provide administrative and logistical support services to the USAID Mission at its Regional Center for Southern Africa. As part of its duties Datex was also obligated to disburse grants to various governmental and non-governmental regional organizations. The total grant budget under the contract was approximately \$5.4 million.

The investigation was conducted by special agents of the USAID Office of Inspector General. The prosecution of the case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Stephen Learned.

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